



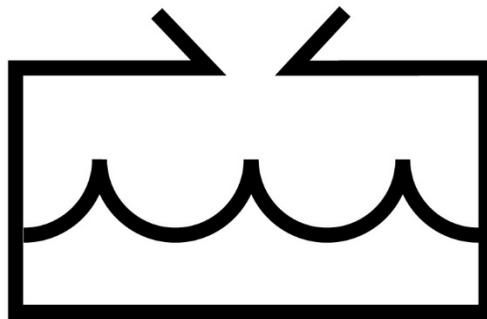
FAMA BUYER'S GUIDE

TC039

WATER TANKS

Prepared by the FAMA Body Subcommittee

This guide does not endorse any manufacturer or product





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Introduction

This guide is intended to provide fire service personnel with information about the various types of Tanks and the options that are available for fire apparatus.

As with any custom design, there are pros and cons to each configuration and not all are represented here. It is the responsibility of the purchaser to determine what best meets their needs and to specify this information to prospective apparatus bidders, sellers, and manufacturers.

For more information, contact the FAMA Member tank, equipment, and apparatus manufacturers listed at www.fama.org.

The National Fire Protection Association Standards define voluntary minimum standards for automotive fire apparatus. The two most widely used Standards are: NFPA 1901®, Standard for Automotive Fire Apparatus

The current editions should be referenced when specifying new apparatus.
www.nfpa.org.

Within the 1901 standards Chapter 18 pertains to the water tank.

Overview

Modern fire apparatus tanks come in many different configurations and are highly integrated in to the apparatus design and are comprised of many features and options utilized to store water and optimize performance. This guide will present in general terms:

- Material Selection
- Shape/Style
- Plumbing
- Capacity
- Foam
- Performance
- Options
- Warranty/Service

<http://www.fireapparatusmagazine.com/articles/print/volume-17/issue-7/features/apparatus-purchasing-booster-tanks.html>



Material Selection

HISTORY

Apparatus manufactures original constructed their own tanks generally form the same material the body was constructed of. Up to the 1970's this meant some form of steel tank, starting with untreated steel tanks in the 1950' to Galvanized in the 1960 and 70's. Stainless Steel and Aluminum were the norm to the mid 1980's. Fiberglass started to appear in this time frame. In the late 1980's Polypropylene water tanks were introduced, and represents the majority of the tanks that are constructed today.

STAINLESS STEEL/ALUMINUM-

Stainless Steel tanks are fairly uncommon in today's Fire apparatus, but they still exist. Stainless Steel tanks are going to most like be elliptical shapes were the fire department is looking for a nice Brushed or mirrored finish where there is a cost savings to buying Stainless Steel wrapped Fiberglass or poly tank. In addition some areas where there are high fill rate pressure or a vacuum style tank use stainless steel or aluminum tanks due to increased rigidity and strength. in general Stainless Steel/Aluminum Tanks have the lowest initial cost.

Pro

Cons

FIBERGLASS-

Pro

Cons

POLYPROPYLENE

Xxx

<https://www.firerescue1.com/fire-products/fire-apparatus/articles/1304561-Apparatus-tanks-3-reasons-to-pick-polymer/>



Shape/Style

RECTANGULAR/ T-STYLE

ELLIPTICAL STYLE

ELLIPTICAL-T-STYLE

DRY OR WETSIDE

Xxxx

Plumbing

Xxxx

Capacity

Xxxx

Foam

Xxxx

Performance

Xxxx

Options



INTEGRATED FEATURES

Ladder Tunnels

Hard suction

Storage Compartments

Body

Hosebed

EXTERNAL FEATURES

Mounting blocks

Slotted blocks

Platforms

Hosebed walls/dividers

Warranty/Service

LIMITED LIFETIME WARRANTY

DOMESTIC (USA/CANADA)

INTERNATIONAL

OTHER WARRANTIES

SERVICE LOCATIONS



FIRE
APPARATUS
MANUFACTURERS'
ASSOCIATION

Buyer's Guide Water Tanks